

State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

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EASLEY ANNOUNCES DROUGHT DISASTER ASSISTANCE GRANTS TOTALING \$431,674 FOR EDEN AND STATESVILLE

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley today announced grants totaling \$431,674 to two North Carolina communities that have incurred significant expenses in protecting their public water supply from the effects of a four-year drought.

"Eden and Statesville have experienced major impacts from the lingering drought and these grants will help them deal with immediate needs and prepare for future challenges," Easley said.

The grants will help reimburse costs such as drilling wells and making emergency connections to new water sources. Statesville will be awarded \$305,237, and Eden will receive \$126,437.

Last fall, the governor set aside \$1 million from the state's Contingency and Emergency Fund to provide relief and assistance from the effects of the drought disaster. Three communities – Cherryville, Shelby and Cleveland County – have already been awarded similar grants. The Division of Emergency Management oversees fund distribution

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